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Economic Commission for Europe

Executive Committee

Eighty-second meeting
Geneva, 18 January 2016
Item 3(b) of the provisional agenda
Decisions on matters relating to the Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry

Decision approving the programme of work of the Forestry and Timber subprogramme for 2016–2017

Background

1. At the seventy-third session of the Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry (Engelberg, 2-6 November 2015), the Committee adopted and recommended the programme of work of the Forestry and Timber subprogramme for 2016–2017 to the ECE Executive Committee for approval with the following amendments :

(a) Add "Rovaniemi" ahead of "Action Plan" in para 7;

(b) Add United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and European Forest Institute (EFI) to the list of organizations (section III C (i), para 3) with which the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) should cooperate;

(c) Update references to legislative mandates: namely, add the United Nations General Assembly resolution 70/1 (of 25 September 2015) to Appendix III part A, section 1 and the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) resolution 2015/33 - International Arrangement on Forests beyond 2015 into part B section 2; and delete the reference to ECOSOC resolution 2013/240;

(d) Double the number of parliamentary documents under III A (ii).

Draft Decision

2. The Executive Committee hereby approves the programme of work as contained in the Annex.

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Annex

Programme of work of the Forestry and Timber subprogramme for 2016–2017

I. Introduction

1. The present document sets out the draft programme of work of the Forestry and timber subprogramme ("the subprogramme") for 2016–2017 as part of the Integrated Programme of Work 2014-2017 of the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry (COFFI) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) European Forestry Commission (EFC). The Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry ("the Committee") has adopted and recommended it to the Executive Committee (EXCOM) for approval. Any subsequent additional, discontinued or carried over outputs will be reflected in the Integrated Monitoring and Document Information System (IMDIS) used by the Secretariat for the planning, monitoring and reporting on the implementation of the programme. The results of the implementation of the programme of work will be submitted to the Committee in the Programme Performance report for the biennium 2016–2017.

2. The draft programme of work applies a results-based management (RBM) approach, a broad management approach which establishes logical relationship between the hierarchical results (outputs – outcomes – impact) known as 'results chain', the resources (human and financial) known as 'inputs' and the external factors (strategic, governance, operational, financial) which can prevent from achieving the objective.

3. The outputs/activities in the draft programme of work correspond to those contained in the ECE proposed programme budget for 2016–2017. They fall into the following main categories: (a) meetings and related parliamentary documentation; (b) other substantive activities; and (c) technical cooperation, including advisory services, training courses, seminars, workshops, and field projects.

4. The outcomes/expected accomplishments, with corresponding indicators of achievement and performance measures are presented in Annex I in the form of a logical framework.

5. The details of the proposed publications are provided in Annex II. The overall ECE legislative mandates and those specific for the subprogramme are listed in Annex III.

II. Objective, strategy and external factors

6. The objective of the subprogramme is to strengthen sustainable management of forests in the ECE region.

7. The responsibility for the subprogramme is vested in the Forests, Land and Housing Division The subprogramme develops and applies analytical and monitoring tools to support evidence-based policymaking on sustainable forest management. The subprogramme collects, validates and disseminates information and the results of research and analysis; facilitates the exchange of national experience and best practices and monitors progress on key forest-sector indicators. The subprogramme provides a platform for policy dialogue on related issues while taking into account a rapidly changing policy environment, notably in climate change and bioenergy. Implementation of the Rovaniemi Action Plan for the Forest Sector in a Green Economy will contribute to promoting the role of the forest sector in a green economy and in mitigation and adaptation to climate change.

8. The subprogramme promotes the sustainable management of forests through the sound and legal use of forest products (including raw material, energy, and forest ecosystem services), based on appropriate policies and institutions. Priorities for 2016-2017 will be guided primarily by the outcomes of the joint session of the ECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry and the FAO European Forestry Commission (Silva2015). The subprogramme supports the development of cross-sectoral and cross-institutional policies promoting sustainable forest management, and enhanced forest governance in line with the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development. Furthermore, the subprogramme contributes to the post-2015 development agenda by supporting sustainable management of forests, soils and grasslands and by monitoring the status of forests and their effect on climate change mitigation.

9. As part of the implementation strategy of the subprogramme, ECE carries out its work in partnership with FAO, the European Forest Institute, Forest Europe and other relevant regional organizations. It provides regular input to the United Nations Forum on Forests and the FAO Committee on Forestry.

10. To support forest management, including the provision of forest services and the use of wood and forest products which are ecologically, economically and socially sustainable, the subprogramme: (a) encourages all relevant stakeholders to participate in and implement the activities of the subprogramme; and (b) takes a cross-sectoral approach to ensure that the strategy is well integrated into the policy framework of other sectors. Achieving sustainable forest management is primarily a national responsibility, so the subprogramme and its partners support national-level efforts by developing and disseminating concepts and information, sharing experiences and capacity-building and by defining measurement standards and policy tools.

11. The external factors of the subprogramme comprise (a) active country and stakeholder participation; (b) partnership with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), including the provision of staff and non-staff resources, to implement the integrated ECE/FAO programme in this field; and (c) in kind and cash support from member states to the implementation of planned activities.

III. Outputs/activities to be delivered during the biennium 2016-2017

A. Servicing of intergovernmental and expert bodies: ECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry

(i) Substantive servicing of meetings

1. Annual sessions of the Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry (14 half-days)

2. FAO European Forestry Commission (10 half-days)

3. Joint Meetings of the Bureau of the Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry and of the Executive Committee of the European Forestry Commission (12 half-days)

4. Annual sessions of the Joint ECE/FAO Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management (10 half-days)

5. Annual meetings of the Team of Specialists on Sustainable Forest Products (2 half-days)

6. Annual meetings of the Team of Specialists on Forest Products Statistics (4 half-days)

7. Annual meetings of the Team of Specialists on Wood Energy (4 half-days)

8. Annual meetings of the Team of Specialists on Monitoring of Sustainable Forest Management (8 half-days)

9. Annual meetings of the Team of Specialists on Forest Policy (4 half-days)

10. Annual meetings of the Team of Specialists on Forest Sector Outlook (4 half-days)

11. Annual meetings of the Team of Specialists on Forest Communication (Forest Communication Network) (8 half-days)

12. Annual meetings of the Team of Specialists on Green Jobs (4 half-days)

(ii) Parliamentary documentation

1. Documents for the annual sessions of the Committee, including reports on market conditions for forest products and on support for the international forest dialogue (20)

2. Reports of the annual sessions of the Committee (4)

3. Contribution to substantive reports for the FAO European Forestry Commission (8)

4. Annotated agenda of the Joint ECE/FAO Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management (2)

5. Reports of the annual sessions of the Joint Working Party (2)

B. Other substantive activities

(i) Recurrent publications

1. Forest Products Annual Market Review (2)

2. Forecast of the Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry: Forest Products production and trade (2)

(ii) Non-recurrent publications

1. Geneva Timber and Forest Study Papers on forest ownership (1)

2. Geneva Timber and Forest Study Papers on topics to be identified (2)

3. Geneva Timber and Forest Discussion Papers on topics to be identified (6)

(iii) Booklets, fact sheets, wallcharts, information kits

1. Information brochure on forestry and timber (1)

(iv) Press releases, press conferences

1. Annual sets of press releases to be issued on the occasion of meetings, forums and the issuance of publications (2)

(v) Documentation for interagency meetings

1. Substantive reports for the Joint ECE/FAO Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management, including on forest resource information, markets and statistics, and on sector outlook studies (6)

(vi) Technical material

1. Maintenance of a website providing meeting documents, excerpts of publications and information on activities related to the subprogramme (2)

2. Maintenance of database on forest resources, ownership and management (2)

3. Maintenance of database on forest products production, consumption and trade, including prices (2)

4. Maintenance of database on wood energy (2)

5. Maintenance of database on forest policies and institutions (2)

C. Technical cooperation

(i) Training courses, seminars and workshops

1. Workshops on sector issues, including capacity building, marketing, resources, policies and institutions, with emphasis on transition issues (4)

2. Seminars/workshops on sector issues to be determined by the Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry (2)

3. Workshops/seminars organised jointly with FAO and/or the Ministerial Conference for the Protection of Forests in Europe, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and European Forest Institute (EFI) (4)

Appendix I

The expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement and performance measures for 2016-2017

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	*Indicators of achievement*
(a) Improved monitoring and assessment of the forest sector, to support sustainable forest management	(a) (i) Percentage of ECE member States able to provide satisfactory data on qualitative indicators of sustainable forest management *Performance measures* 2012-2013: 68 per cent Estimate 2014-2015: 69 per cent Target 2016-2017: 69 per cent (ii) Percentage of ECE member States able to provide satisfactory data on quantitative indicators of sustainable forest management *Performance measures* 2012-2013: 68 per cent Estimate 2014-2015: 69 per cent Target 2016-2017: 69 per cent (iii) Percentage of ECE member States able to provide satisfactory responses to the ECE/FAO/International Tropical Timber Organization/Eurostat joint forest sector questionnaire *Performance measures* 2012-2013: 68 per cent Estimate 2014-2015: 68 per cent Target 2016-2017: 70 per cent
(b) Increased national capacity of countries of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus, Central Asia and South-East Europe in sustainable forest management	(d) Increased number of capacity-building activities on sustainable forest management *Performance measures* 2012-2013: n/a Estimate 2014-2015: n/a Target 2016-2017: 6 activities

Appendix II

Details of proposed publications for 2016-2017

A. Recurrent publications

Item no.	*Title*	*Mandate*	*Print and or electronic*	*Size*	*No. of pages*	*Original language(s)*	*Translated language(s)*	*No. of copies and language(s)*
1	Forest Products Annual Market Review (2016)	ECE/TIM/2013/2, Annex IV, Para 2	Print and electronic	A4	150	E	F, R	E400 F50 R50
2	Forest Products Annual Market Review (2017)	ECE/TIM/2013/2, Annex IV, Para 2	Print and electronic	A4	150	E	F, R	E400 F50 R50
3	Outlook for Forest Products Markets (2016)	ECE/TIM/2013/2, Annex IV, Para 2	Electronic	A4	30	E	F, R	---
4	Outlook for Forest Products Markets (2017)	ECE/TIM/2013/2, Annex IV, Para 2	Electronic	A4	30	E	F, R	---

Appendix III

Legislative mandates

A. Overall ECE legislative mandates

1. Resolutions of the General Assembly

Res No.	*Title*
55/2	United Nations Millennium Declaration
57/144	Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit
57/253	World Summit on Sustainable Development
57/270B	Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields
60/248	Special subjects relating to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007
65/185	Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly
68/222	Development cooperation with middle-income countries
66/288	The Future We Want
64/210	Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence
67/10	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Eurasian Economic Community
67/13	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization
67/14	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization
67/15	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization
67/83	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe
67/148	Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly
68/204	Follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development
68/212	Protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind

Res No.	*Title*
68/225	Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries: outcome of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation
67/226	Quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system
68/230	South-South cooperation
67/264	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation
67/290	Format and organizational aspects of the high-level political forum on sustainable development
68/6	Outcome document of the Special Event to follow up on efforts made towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals
70/1	Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

2. Resolutions of the Economic and Social Council

Res No.	*Title*
2006/38	Workplan on reform of the Economic Commission for Europe and revised terms of reference for the Commission
2012/30	Role of the Economic and Social Council in the integrated and coordinated implementation of the outcomes of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits, in light of relevant general Assembly resolution including resolution 61/16
2013/1	Outcome of the review of the 2005 Reform of the Economic Commission for Europe
2013/16	Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system

3. Economic Commission for Europe decisions

Res No.	*Title*
ECE/AC.21/2002/8	Declaration on the establishment of a Transport, Health and Environment Pan-European Programme (THE PEP) adopted at the Second High-level Meeting on Transport, Health and Environment
A(64)	The Work of the Economic Commission for Europe

B. Legislative mandates specific to the subprogramme

1. Resolutions of the General Assembly

Res No.	*Title*
62/98	Non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests
67/200	International Day of Forests

2. Resolutions and decisions of the Economic and Social Council

Res No.	*Title*
2007/40	Non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests
2015/33	International Arrangement on Forests beyond 2015